

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval (J&A) For Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office (NCO) 23, 2501 W 22nd Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, on behalf of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System (VACIHCS). This is a Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition.
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** The purpose of this contractual action is for the justification and approval for a modification to Contract No. VA263-12-D-5001 to increase the contract maximum by \$400,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$2,400,000. The original contract was estimated at \$1,791,278 and was a firm fixed price Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract for Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) Ground Ambulance Transport services for the VACIHCS. The contract usage has steadily increased since the inception of the IDIQ in September of 2012. The current contract has had a total of \$1,917,237.50 orders placed against it and has an expiration date of September 29, 2016.

During the process of requesting information from the mission partner for the new solicitation it was discovered that an increase in funding will be needed in order to keep the current level of services in place until the end of the current option period.


The continuation of these critical services is required until a long term contract can be put in place. This contractual action will allow for the continuation of services until a new contract can be awarded and the awardee has achieved full implementation of the required services. This modification will update the contract maximum to a firm amount of \$2,400,000.00.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** The VA Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa has a requirement for ALS/BLS Ground Ambulance Transport Services and does not have the capability to perform these services in-house. The current contract has 25 different line items for services that are accomplished under this contract for the VACIHCS. The value of this modification is \$400,000. Due to the high costs associated with implementing and maintaining these services in-house, it is more cost effective to utilize a contractor that provides the full range of required services which are beyond the current capability of the Des Moines VA Medical Center.
4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

(x) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** At this time, the incumbent contractor, Midwest Ambulance Services, Inc., is the only contractor that is known for certain to possess the necessary resources (manpower, experience, technical/operational knowledge, licensing and equipment on hand) to perform the critical mission for the near term. The current contract is nearing its estimated contractual maximum of \$2,000,000. A procurement strategy has been developed to procure a new long term contract. However, it is anticipated that a minimum of one hundred and sixty (160) business days will be required to procure and potentially transition the current workload to another contractor without any disruptions in services.

As ALS/BLS Ground Ambulance Transport services are critically necessary for the care and safety of the veteran beneficiaries, the VACIHCS requires continuation of these services until a new contract has been awarded and the awardee has achieved full implementation of the required services. It would not be feasible to complete an interim competitive contract for this shorter period.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** No additional contractors were identified as a potential source for the short term emergency requirement. The modification to increase the ceiling is important to allow adequate time to procure the long-term requirement. It is imperative that we allow enough time to prepare a new solicitation and award a new contract to ensure that we do not eliminate potential contractors by not allowing them sufficient time to prepare their quotes and mobilize their equipment and personnel in time for the award date.
7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** The purpose of this modification is to increase the maximum contract ceiling to allow for the continuation of services until the end of the last remaining option period and to allow for the extension of services for an additional four months under the clause at 52.217-8, Option to Extend. The existing line item prices will remain the same for the current period of performance and for the Option to Extend period of performance and are considered fair and reasonable based on acquisition history for similar services.
8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:** Market research has revealed that adequate competition is available for a future solicitation and the Government intends to compete the future solicitation.
9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** None
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:** N/A.
11. **A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:** The Network Contracting Office in Sioux Falls, SD is currently working on a future solicitation and the Government intends to compete the future solicitation. The new solicitation will be released with adequate contract maximums to ensure future needs are properly addressed within the initial contract action.
12. **Requirements Certification:** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide Need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Business Office Manager
VA Central Iowa Health Care System

07/26/2016

Date

13. **Approvals in accordance with the VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP.**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[REDACTED]

07/26/2016

Date

Contracting Officer
Network Contracting Office 23 (NCO 23)

- b. **Director of Contracting /Designee (Required \$150K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

[REDACTED]

07/26/2016

Date

NCO 23 Services Line Branch Chief – Sioux Falls